

null
Diana T Fritz 12/06/2006 04:38:22 PM From DB/Inbox: Diana T Fritz

Cable
Text:

S E C R E T ABU DHABI 04392

SIPDIS
CXABU:

ACTION: ECON
INFO: DCM POL TREAS P/M AMB

DISSEMINATION: ECON
CHARGE: ICAS

APPROVED: DCM:MQINN
DRAFTED: OFAC:JBEAL
CLEARED: ECON:OJOHN

VZCZCADI715
RR RUEATRS RUEHC RUEHZM RUEHGB RUEHAM RUEHLB
RUEHEG RUEHDE RHEHNSC RHEFHLC RHMFISS
DE RUEHAD #4392 3341338
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
R 301338Z NOV 06
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7780
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE
RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 0265
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN 0717
RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 0542
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 0988
RUEHDE/AMCONSUL DUBAI 6677
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RHEFHLC/DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DC
RHMFISS/FBI WASHINGTON DC

S E C R E T ABU DHABI 004392

SIPDIS

TREASURY FOR U/S LEVEY, A/S POBRIEN, DAS DGLASER, RLOEFFLER
STATE FOR GNOVIS, SPETERSON
NEA/IR, NEA/ARP RTAGGART, DBAGWELL
NSC FOR JZARATE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/29/2016
TAGS: [PTER](#) [PREL](#) [KTFN](#) [IZ](#)
SUBJECT: MENA FATF SIDE MEETINGS - EGYPT, LEBANON AND UAE
READY TO HELP IRAQI FIU

REF: ABU DHABI 03818

Classified By: Ambassador Michele J. Sison, for reasons 1.4 b and d.

¶1. (U) Summary. On the sides of the Middle East North African Financial Action Task Force Fourth Plenary meeting November 13-16, the US delegation connected the Iraqi FIU with other regional FIU's that can provide training and support. The US delegation continued the dialogue with the UAE FIU on the Somali Hawala working group. (The MENA FATF Plenary is reported septel.) Action request para 4. End Summary.

¶2. (U) The FIU directors of Lebanon (Muhammad Baasiri), UAE (Abdulrahim Al Awadi) and Egypt (Samir al-Shahed) each spent roughly one hour with the Iraqi delegation going through the nuts and bolts of FIU development. The UAE offered to provide training to the Iraqi FIU in the UAE, all expenses paid. Lebanon also extended an invitation to the Iraqis to visit the Lebanese FIU in order to provide more hands-on experience of FIU daily operations. Finally, Egypt provided the Iraqis with detailed step-by-step instructions on how to establish an operational and effective FIU in Iraq. The Director of the Iraqi MLRO stated that currently her unit can

only enforce STR reporting in the Baghdad area.

¶3. (U) Representatives from Treasury met with Abdulrahim Al Awadi, the Head of the Anti-Money Laundering and Suspicious Cases Unit (AMLSCU), to discuss the upcoming Joint Terrorism Financing Coordinating Committee. UAE is still supportive of a working group meeting on the Somali Hawalas issue (Reftel) and requested a letter from post clarifying the information that the USG would like to discuss. (Note. Post will submit letter in early December. End note.) Additionally, they requested additional information that the USG might have to support the freezing of the assets of the Barakaat entities (see Action Request). Finally, Abdulrahim Al Awadi reiterated the UAE desire to do training in cooperation with the USG.

¶4. (C) Action Request: Post requests Treasury to prepare a summary of information on the Barakaat entities, particularly those entities in the UAE, that is releasable to the UAE. This paper should be passed at the US/UAE/UK Somali working group or the next Joint Terrorism Financing Coordination Committee meeting.

¶5. (S) The UAE Central Bank Governor Sultan Nasser Al Suweidi met with Rachel Loeffler, the head of the USG MENA FATF delegation and Kristen Hecht, Treasury Policy Advisor. Suweidi reiterated the UAE commitment to helping train the Iraqi FIU and commented on the need to bring the Iraqi Kurdish region into the orbit of the central Iraqi FIU. He noted that currently the Kurdish region operates more or less autonomously with respect to financial issues. When asked about follow-up to Assistant Secretary of the Treasury O'Brien's Iran-focused visit in September, Suweidi responded that inspections of Iranian banks have become more frequent, that the UAE had taken some people⁸ (NFI) and that the government was monitoring transfers.

SISON